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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal and Almighty God, You are the alpha and omega, the beginning and the ending. Keep us alert to the needs of our time. Give us enough humility to respect the opinions of others and enough wisdom to acknowledge our common humanity. Give this Senate a unity of mind and purpose and the realization that all things work together for good to those who love You. Bless our military men and women who stand as guardians of our freedoms. Lord, from the cradle to the grave, we need You. Guide and sustain us until the journey ends. We pray this in Your strong Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, this morning the Senate will resume debate on S.J. Res. 17, relating to the disapproval of an FCC rule. Under the order, the vote will occur on passage of that resolution at 10:45 this morning.

Following that vote, the Senate will resume consideration of the energy and water appropriations bill. Pending is the Feinstein amendment relating to

the robust nuclear earth penetrator. I encourage Members who would like to speak to that amendment to remain following the vote on the FCC resolution. It is hoped we can dispose of that amendment and continue with additional amendments to the energy and water appropriations bill.

Rollcall votes will occur throughout the day as we attempt to finish our work on this bill, which will be the sixth appropriations bill to be completed.

In addition, we will resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 3, the partial-birth abortion ban, for the remaining 6 hours. Last night, the Senate used 2 of the 8 hours that were provided under the previous unanimous consent agreement. We will return to the debate following today's action on the energy and water bill.

Also, today, we will recess from 12:30 to 2:15 for the weekly party luncheons to meet.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACTING MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The acting minority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I think we might be in a position to set a time for a vote on the Feinstein amendment. If we do that, I think it would be to everyone's best interests. Maybe it could be right after the caucuses or something such as that.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, at this juncture, until I talk to our manager of the bill, I do not want to establish a fixed time. I do want to proceed to that vote earlier rather than later. We will continue that discussion and understand that they are ready fairly early in the day.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

DISAPPROVING FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION BROADCAST MEDIA OWNERSHIP RULE

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume the consideration of S.J. Res. 17, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A joint resolution (S.J. Res. 17) disapproving the rules submitted by the Federal Communications Commission with respect to broadcast media ownership.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The time until 10:45 is equally divided between the two leaders or their designees.

Who yields time?

The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Texas.

Before yielding, let me just briefly say, this resolution of disapproval dealing with the rules on broadcast ownership by the Federal Communications Commission is a rarely used—

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, is the Senator from North Dakota granting himself time?

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, there is 30 minutes granted to each side, as I understand it.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The time until 10:45 is equally divided.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me grant myself such time as I may consume. Then I will yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Texas.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is recognized.

Mr. DORGAN. I was simply making the point that this is a resolution of disapproval. It is rarely used in the Senate. I think this is only the second time it has been used. But this is a critically important issue. We will have a number of speakers describing why this resolution of disapproval has been brought to the floor of the Senate.

I yield 10 minutes to the Senator from Texas.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Texas.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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